Appl. No.: 10/591,717 Amdt. dated May 14, 2009

Reply to Office Action of February 19, 2009

## Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image shooting apparatus, comprising:

<u>a</u> bi-splitting <u>means device</u> for splitting incident light into two <u>split light portions</u>, which <u>bi-splitting device</u> can be located at a position other than a position where a focal position of a main lens on which light from an object to be image-captured is incident coincides with a focal position of a relay lens which guides <u>the</u> split light <u>portions</u>;

a tri-splitting-means device for splitting the incident light into three split light portions, which tri-splitting device can be located at a position other than the position where the focal position of the main lens on which light from the object to be image-captured is incident coincides with the focal position of the relay lens which guides the split light portions;

the bi-splitting and tri-splitting devices being configured such that all of the incident light that is split into two split light portions by the bi-splitting device is split into three split light portions by the tri-splitting device; and

 $\underline{an}$  exchange- $\underline{means}$   $\underline{device}$  for exchanging between the bi-splitting- $\underline{means}$   $\underline{device}$  and  $\underline{the}$  tri-splitting- $\underline{means}$   $\underline{device}$ .

2. (Currently Amended) The image shooting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the relay lens-including includes a focus lens group which includes a convex lens group having at least one convex lens and a concave lens group having at least one concave lens,

wherein at least one of the convex lens group and the concave lens group in the focus lens group is moved to perform an adjustment in which an optical path length of each of the two split light portions is made equal to an optical path length of each of the three split light portions.

3. (Currently Amended) The image shooting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a reflecting-means device for reflecting light outputted from the bi-splitting-means device and the tri-splitting-means device,

wherein the reflecting-means <u>device</u> is mechanically moved to perform an adjustment in which an optical path length of each of the two split light <u>portions</u> is made equal to an optical path length of each of the three split light <u>portions</u>.

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4. (Currently Amended) The image shooting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image shooting apparatus is connectable to at least one camera, and further comprising an adjusting means device for performing an adjustment in which an optical path length of each of the two split light portions is made equal to an optical path length of each of the three split light portions. the adjusting-means device being inserted on an optical path between the main lens and the camera.